

Enclosure 2

>>> Liz Haven 10/02/03 04:20PM >>>

To Local Agencies: As you may know from discussions with inspector groups throughout the State earlier this year and with the CUPA Forum Board, USEPA has been working to revise the definition of Significant Operational Compliance (SOC). Per the attached email, we now have received direction from USEPA on reporting SOC, which will be on a voluntary basis for the Federal fiscal year October 1, 2003 – September 30, 2004.

As you may know from discussions with inspector groups throughout the State earlier this year and with the CUPA Forum Board, USEPA has been working to revise the definition of Significant Operational Compliance (SOC). Per the attached email, we now have received direction from USEPA on reporting SOC, which will be on a voluntary basis for the Federal fiscal year October 1, 2003 – September 30, 2004.

Previously, USEPA required reporting of the number of facilities inspected during the quarter that are in SOC with: (1) Leak Detection and (2) 1998 Upgrade Requirements. Please note that USEPA has now changed the names of these items to: (1) Release Detection and (2) Release Prevention. Furthermore, USEPA has provided guidance on assessment of SOC through their Release Detection and Release Prevention matrices. Please also note that USEPA has added a reporting requirement for the number of facilities inspected during the quarter that are in SOC with (3) both Release Detection and Release Prevention. USEPA has made it clear that the facility must be in compliance with all relevant SOC items to be counted as "in SOC."

Because of differences in the CA program from the Federal program, it was necessary to create a CA version. We did not receive any comments on the draft CA version that was sent out on July 25, 2003. Therefore we have finalized the CA SOC measures (attached) and are asking local agencies on behalf of USEPA to begin using the new CA SOC reporting measures on a voluntary basis. We are planning to make the necessary modifications to Report 6 as part of the CalEPA Technical Group on Instructions and Forms rulemaking in Title 27. USEPA will require the use of the measures beginning on October 1, 2004, and the Title 27 rulemaking should be completed by that time. Until the reporting becomes mandatory, please report SOC data ONLY if you use the new CA SOC reporting measures. USEPA will no longer accept data based on the old reporting guidelines. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.